

# THE GATEWAY

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DAN MCKECHNIE

**IF YOU BUILD IT, TOO MANY WILL COME** Construction near East Campus Village still can't meet demand for housing.

## Upcoming fall semester brings housing crunch

AARON YEO  
News Staff

Despite the construction of new residence suites on the east side of campus, there are still hundreds of students being turned away from University of Alberta residences for the upcoming term.

The latest addition to the U of A's graduate residences next to the East Campus Village (EVC) is expected to be ready and open for the 2010 fall term, but of the 234 new beds, almost all have already been assigned.

Doug Dawson, executive director of Ancillary Services, says that this new construction has not solved the housing crunch on campus.

"There's just huge demand for the product," said Dawson, whose job is to maintain the current residences as well as develop plans for expansion.

The university now has 4,224 spaces for students on the main campus, and 477 at the Augustana faculty in Camrose. However, many of the suites in residences like HUB and ECV are already occupied due to long-term contracts, reducing the availability for new students.

"It works out that of the 4,700 spaces that we have, often only about half of those are actually available come September," Dawson said.

As of August 1, 5,356 students had applied to live in residence, and that number increases every day. Lister

Hall, the largest of the residences, can accommodate 1,809 people, but the university has received 2,940 applications. Elsewhere on campus, apart from the 234 additional spots for graduate students, the numbers are not substantially different than they were at this point last year.

Although the graduate student housing construction is the most noticeable progress, there is a lot of preparatory work being done for future expansion.

"There's lots of planning going on — nothing a few million dollars wouldn't solve," Dawson said. The university is looking at building aboriginal student residences and expanding family housing.

Not only are there not enough spaces for students in residence, but it's also a challenge to keep them affordable, as construction of new residences is an expensive operation. Besides building costs, another major contributor to high rent is the municipal property tax imposed on postsecondary residences. According to Students' Union Vice President (External) Aden Murphy, this tax works out to \$200 per bed per year, and is something that doesn't exist in other provinces. The Students' Union is preparing to advocate that these taxes be lifted from residences, so that rents can be lowered.

"We're hoping to work on reducing or limiting that this year," said Murphy.

PLEASE SEE HOUSING ♦ PAGE 2

## MONTHLY RENT RATES

### Lister Centre

**\$536** Single room  
**\$341** Double room  
**\$641** Single room, private bathroom  
\*furnished room, eight-month contract

### HUB

**\$692** Studio  
**\$912** Single room  
**\$561** Double room  
**\$406** Four bedroom  
\*unfurnished room, month-to-month

### East Campus Village

**\$912** Single room  
**\$607** Double room  
**\$469** Four bedroom  
**\$405-994** House, 1 to 6 bedrooms  
\*unfurnished room, month-to-month

### Newton Place

**\$764-828** Studio  
**\$938-1012** Single room  
**\$1247-1338** Double room  
\*unfurnished room, maximum one-year contract

### International House

**\$657** Single room, private bathroom  
\*furnished room, eight-month contract

### Michener Park

**\$793-860** Two-bedroom townhouse  
**\$992-1046** Three-bedroom townhouse  
**\$760-795** Two-bedroom walkup  
**\$807-856** Vanier House, one-bedroom  
**\$760-795** Vanier House, two-bedroom  
\*unfurnished room, maximum one-year contract

### Residence Saint-Jean

**\$571** Single room, private bathroom  
\*furnished room, eight-month contract

### Graduate Residence

**\$900** Studio  
**\$750** Double room  
\*furnished room, maximum one-year contract, does not include electricity

### Average Edmonton rate

**\$706** One or more bedroom  
\*per person average of one person living alone or sharing a dwelling with non-family members; based on 2006 Statistics Canada census data

*\*All of these rates include utilities unless specified and do not include annual association fees.*



## Thirty days of fasting

As Muslims prepare for Ramadan in August, the *Gateway* details the practices of the holy month.

FEATURE, PAGE 8-9



## Two hours of racing

U of A Pandas alumnus Paula Findlay discusses taking top prize in last week's London Triathlon.

SPORTS, PAGE 13



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colophon

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Aaron Yeo, Madeline Smith, Evan Daum, Chris Gee, Ben Sir, Hayley Dunning, Siwei Chen, Dan Watson, Ross Vincent, Antony Ta, Tyler Dawson, Ross Lockwood, Benjamin Nay, Lauren Alston, Nathaniel Brenneis, Mustafa Farooq

“This time, I actually have a problem.”

COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Evan Daum

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6 p.m. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on August 17, where free food will be provided for all attendees.

After going back to the classic council cuisine of pizza last meeting, wraps containing meat, sprouts, and rice were on the menu for the latest edition of the SU's summer session. While the wraps left something to be desired, the culinary crowd-pleaser of cookies and fresh fruit helped salvage the menu for most attendees. If you're on the edge of your seat as you read this tantalizing description of the fodder at council and if you're at all interested in student politics, swing by, fill your belly, and get your democracy on.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Simon Yackulic

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE...

Around 2:30 a.m. on July 30, CSS officers located a severely intoxicated female lying face down on the sidewalk on the east exterior of the Health Research Innovation Facility.

CSS determined that two other females in the area were friends of the intoxicated female but they refused to take responsibility for her well-being. CSS took custody of the female and transported her to Hope Mission to spend the night.

NOROAD LEFT UNTRAVELLED

Just before midnight on July 31, campus security officers on routine patrol

QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question about the upcoming municipal election this fall, Vice President (External) Aden Murphy explained that there will be a forum for city council candidates at the U of A.

The details have yet to be worked out, but Murphy explained that he's been in contact with Edmonton Next Gen — a group that encourages engaged citizenship among Edmontonians age 18-40 — to facilitate the planning of the debate.

TIME TO BE COMMITTED

Three councillors were named to the Students' Union Strategic Planning Committee, functioning in a continuity role to help create long-term plans to last beyond the yearly election cycle. They will join three executives, three SU staff members, and three students-at-large on the committee.

Along with the appointments to the Strategic Planning Committee, council unanimously voted to appoint Jaskaran

stopped a vehicle for driving the wrong way down a one-way street. The driver was slurring his speech and stated he had just attended a party at the Faculty Club. He also had difficulty locating his registration documents in his car. The driver was detained for the purposes of an impaired driving investigation. Edmonton Police Service arrived and administered a breath test, which the driver failed. He was arrested for impaired driving and his vehicle was towed.

DARKNESS ISN'T ALWAYS THE BEST COVER

At 3 a.m. on July 31, campus security officers stopped a vehicle on 83 Avenue and 114 Street for driving without headlights. A licence check showed that he was currently a suspended driver and had an outstanding warrant for assault. Edmonton police attended and the driver was taken into custody.

STEVEN DOLLANSKY  
Students' Council Speaker

—on technical difficulties with the microphones, which forced him to project his voice across the chamber for the remainder of council

Singh as the new Chief Returning Officer, acting on the recommendation of the Chief Returning Officer Selection Committee.

WE NEED BOB THE BUILDER

Bill #13, the political policy on deferred maintenance, unanimously passed through first reading. The policy outlines Student Council's advocacy for increased provincial spending on deferred maintenance projects, along with preventative maintenance funding in future U of A budgets, and the stance that the university should attempt to minimize future maintenance costs.

Council also tackled the issue of affordable housing by adopting Bill #14, which outlines their position that the City of Edmonton remove municipal property taxes from residences and that the provincial government provide a large, one-time grant to help with deferred maintenance costs. The SU will also advocate for further funds from the province for the development of more student residences.

A REAL WINNER

Just after 2 a.m. on August 1, CSS stopped an intoxicated non-affiliated male in front of the Timms Building. The male initially provided an alias but eventually identified himself. A criminal records check showed that he had a history of sexual and violent offences, and was known to police as an "aggressive panhandler." The male was exhibiting symptoms of extreme drug intoxication including hallucinations and was taken to the U of A Hospital.

CAN'T MOVE ON

Around 5 p.m. on August 1, CSS officers located a male using one of the study rooms in Cameron Library. The male, who was known to the service, was no longer a University of Alberta student and had been removed from residence a few weeks prior to this incident. The male was trespassed from campus and CSS forced him to turn over University keys that were still in his possession.

SU asking for gov't help with housing crisis

HOUSING ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The first step in their plan is to meet with residence students' associations and Residence Services to ensure that any savings will be passed on to students.

"Once we have a plan," Murphy said, "we'll be taking it to the different city council candidates during the municipal election [this October]. If we are getting nowhere with the city, then we'll probably take it to the province next, and ask them to remove residences from the properties that the city can tax."

So far, any effort to keep rent low on campus has led to issues with upkeep. The university can't afford to keep the buildings in top shape and so they defer maintenance. As the buildings age and deteriorate, costs increase, and the problems compound. The SU will look at lobbying the provincial government to address deferred maintenance, but it is not currently a priority.

The SU will instead focus their lobbying efforts on asking the government for funding to build new residences.

"The construction costs are such in Alberta that you don't see a great deal of rental accommodation being built," Dawson said.

To raise money for construction, the University of Toronto has recently turned to the private sector to fund new residences, a strategy that has also been tried at many American universities.

"Our tax laws and things are a little bit different, so it's not quite as prevalent [in Alberta]," Dawson said. "[But] it's not unforeseeable that at some point in the future, the university might have a combination of privately operated and university-owned residences working in harmony."

However, Murphy disagreed. "I'd be extremely skeptical of the logistics of that, and until I saw anything conclusive or otherwise, I would not be very favourable towards it."

The private sector is profit-oriented, and Murphy doesn't think it has a place in student residences, as the rent could go above market value.

"That's a situation we really, really want to avoid: where residences are premium housing, instead of affordable housing."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Matt Hirji and Dan McKechnie

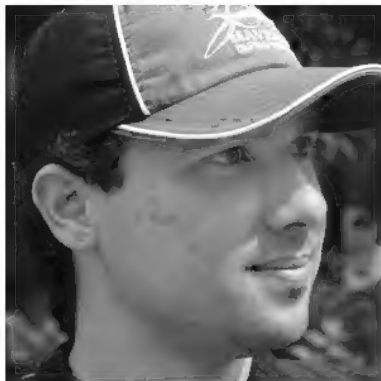
As you may be aware, school is starting in less than a month.  
What's your favourite back-to-school memory?



Janet Ariss  
Masters I



Amanda Annett  
Entering First Year



Leonardo Mirindie  
Engineering III



Matt Caindec  
Sciences IV

Back-to-school shopping. I always get really excited for that — you get new pens, pencils, and binders. I also really like all the new clothes and shoes that you get to buy. I'm a girl, I really like to shop.

Reconnecting with friends. Over the summers, all my friends end up going our own ways and it's really hectic. It's nice to see everyone again. This year will be great because a bunch of my friends are starting at the U of A as well.

My favourite part is just getting back into the school routine. I get really lost when I don't have a routine. It's nice to have something to do and meet up with friends.

I always like Week of Welcome because of the free stuff that they give you. Quad is always full of people and you are always running into people.



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# BMI not an accurate measure of health

## U of A researcher links high fat and survival rates in heart failure patients

HAYLEY DUNNING  
News Writer

Body Mass Index (BMI), often used as an indicator of overall health, is not an accurate indicator of survivability in heart failure patients, according to a new University of Alberta study.

The BMI is a measure of body weight based on height and weight. Individuals can input personal statistics into a BMI calculator to determine where their BMI falls relative to the ‘healthy’ weight standards.

“In the general population, the higher your BMI the greater your risk of disease and dying early. We were the first ones to measure body composition in [heart failure] patients,” said Antigone Oreopoulos of the U of A’s School of Public Health.

Oreopoulos led a study to test the “obesity paradox”: why heart failure patients with higher BMI have greater rates of survival.

“We asked what component of increased weight — is it fat, is it muscle, or is it both — that’s protecting these patients from death?” she said.

The study recorded the BMI of 140 patients, along with five “surrogates of death,” which are known prognostic factors for heart failure. These factors included nutritional status, quality of life, inflammation, exercise capac-

ity, and severity of heart failure. Body composition was then measured using a Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DEXA) scan to get an accurate measure of muscle mass and body fat percentage. The results revealed that BMI is not a good predictor of positive prognostic factors for heart failure patients, as it doesn’t discern between fat and muscle.

“It suggests there are differing effects of muscle and fat in heart failure, and that’s a really key finding. It shows that really, clinicians need to be measuring both to track changes, and we need to be measuring both in research to understand this phenomenon.”

In the meantime, according to Oreopoulos, doctors need alternatives to BMI to assess heart failure patients. A DEXA scanner costs approximately \$100,000 and requires a specialized technician, so is impractical for routine use. Oreopoulos also tested other methods of estimating body fat, such as waist circumference and waist-to-height ratio, as well as cheaper instrumental methods such as bio-electrical impedance, used in home body fat scales, and near infrared interactance.

“[The near infrared interactance] uses near infrared light. It has a sensor which you apply to the biceps and it measures your percent fat and your muscle,” Oreopoulos said.

Most of the alternatives had similar issues to the BMI measurement and were not reliable. However, near infrared interactance performed within acceptable limits, and at around only \$5,000 per unit, is a much more feasible alternative.

Discerning between fat and muscle is only the first step in understanding the obesity paradox, explained Oreopoulos. While muscle is a greater indicator of health in the general public, it may be that fat acts as an energy store for heart failure patients in the final stages of the disease.

“At later stages of the disease, [patients] can get ‘wasting.’ They get inflammation and their metabolic rate is very high, so they’re losing weight uncontrollably. So it’s possible that fat may still play a protective role,” Oreopoulos said.

The next stage of Oreopoulos’ research is to test the effect of intentional weight loss in very obese heart failure patients. However, if muscle is the driving factor, weight loss programs that do not strive to maintain muscle may be detrimental. Muscle is often hard to gain or maintain, as exercise is difficult for heart failure patients. Until longer-term studies on the effects of muscle versus fat are completed, definite recommendations cannot be made.

## campus digest

Compiled by Dan Watson

### CONFERENCE ON TOLERANCE

An international survey studying the effects of xeno-racism and its links with extremism is one result of a conference on the subject hosted last month at the University of Alberta.

The resulting study will focus initially on Muslim communities, noting perceived hostility towards them after events such as 9/11, the assassination of Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh, and the 2005 London Tube Bombings.

Xeno-racism is the fear of people perceived to be foreign because of their race, and Department of Political Science Chair Andy Knight hosted the conference to analyze how xeno-racism relates to extremism in North America and Europe. Knight has noted that Canada’s policy of multiculturalism puts it ahead of some European countries in integrating immigrants and combating issues of xeno-racism. However, he has argued that this does not make Canada immune to extremism, and that conferences on the issue can help to inform the Canadian government on the prevention of xeno-racism.

### CAPTURING OUR CARBON

The Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta will now play host to the Canadian Centre for Clean Coal/Carbon and Mineral Processing Technologies (C5MPT). The teaching and research centre will focus on being at the cutting edge of clean coal and carbon, mineral processing, water-based oil sands extraction, and carbon capture and storage.

Funding for the \$21 million centre will come from both the Government of Alberta and the private industry. It will focus on clean energy innovations.

The centre will be headed by Dr. Quingxia (Chad) Liu, who said C5MPT will expedite the process of getting energy innovations turned into market applications by sharing developments with industry partners. Liu holds two doctorate degrees and has extensive experience in private sector work.

### ABORIGINAL JOURNAL LAUNCHES

Beginning in November, the Faculty of Native Studies at the University of Alberta will begin publishing a new academic journal called *Aboriginal Policy Studies*.

It will focus on policy issues pertaining to urban Aboriginals and those living off-reserve, as well as Métis and non-status Indians. The journal will be published semi-annually and hopes

to attract articles from multiple disciplines that are relevant to Canadian aboriginal policy.

The journal’s first editor will be Chris Anderson, who is an associate professor in the Faculty of Native Studies. Funding to start the journal came from a grant through the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, which is a department that co-ordinates urban aboriginal strategy for the national government.

### MILITARY MEDAL FOR SURGEON

Last month, the Canadian military recognized U of A surgeon Stewart Hamilton with the General Service Medal for his work in Afghanistan in 2008. Hamilton served in the hospital at Kandahar Airfield and was responsible for treating coalition forces, Afghan security forces, and civilians.

The General Service Medal is given by the Canadian Forces to recognize those whose work is not in the direct theatre of combat, but who support the International Security Assistance Force, which is in combat in Afghanistan with Canadian troops.

Hamilton did his general surgery residency at the U of A, and was also chair of the university’s department of surgery for 10 years. He continues to practice in Edmonton while doing on-call emergency surgeries at the U of A hospital.

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# University of Alberta alumnus awarded Order of Canada

Former *Gateway* writer recognized for developing the Alberta Online Encyclopedia, a heritage website with millions of visitors to date

SIWEI CHEN  
News Writer

Working on the Alberta Online Encyclopedia, an online resource that has helped countless Albertans connect with history, has earned a University of Alberta alumnus the Order of Canada.

Adriana Davies is the founding Executive Director and Editor-in-Chief of the Alberta Online Encyclopedia (albertasource.ca), a website capable of searching across 81 websites containing a myriad of topics concerning Alberta heritage.

Despite the fact that her Order of Canada ceremony may not be until spring 2011, Davies is excited for what the honour represents for the heritage field and all of those involved with preserving and showcasing aspects of Canada's history.

"I'm doubly thrilled because I think that sometimes people who work in the heritage field do so in anonymity," Davies said. "I think that the heritage field is likely under-represented, so not only did I personally get recognized, but the field in which I spent the majority of my adult life working has also been recognized."

"In January 2000, after [the Heritage Community Foundation] built our first website [for the provincial centenary], I realized that that was the way to go," Davies said. "That was the way to engage all Canadians, by using the medium of choice: the world wide web."

With that, the idea of the Alberta Online Encyclopedia was born. As of

2008, nearly two million visitors visited the website for a total of about 4 million actual site visits of up to half an hour in duration.

As its founder, Davies has many things to be proud of.

"The Alberta Online Encyclopedia really is the largest provincial repository of material about our heritage in all aspects: the historical, natural, cultural, scientific, and technological heritage," Davies said.

**"I always felt that at some point I would have to pay back my adoptive country for all of the opportunities and good luck that I had."**

ADRIANA DAVIES  
ORDER OF CANADA RECIPIENT

"To me, making this material available, and also the stories of ordinary people and non-mainstream communities, is just absolutely critical."

Although initially supported by Centennial Legacy funding of \$1.2 million, it became increasingly difficult to finance the project as a small charity, so the trustees decided in 2009 to gift the Alberta Online Encyclopedia to the University of Alberta, making it a part of its library system.

Davies immigrated to Canada with her parents in 1951 from Grimaldi, Italy.

"As an immigrant and a child of immigrants, I always felt that at some point I would have to pay back my adoptive country for all of the opportunities and good luck that I had," Davies said.

Even from a young age, Davies had felt drawn to the preservation of heritage. "I was really interested in becoming an architect. That aspect of the built heritage fascinated me since I was a young child."

Empowered with her love for heritage and a desire to contribute to her adoptive country, Davies joined the *Gateway* writing team in pursuit of a career in journalism. Eventually, her love of academe led her into a Masters in English Literature and to London, England for a doctorate in English Comparative Literature.

"[After my doctorate], I made my living through freelance, research, and editorial," Davies said. "The writing, the editing, the teaching — all of these things were part of what I did and what I enjoyed, and when I came back to Canada, I continued to do all of these things."

Now that she's received the Order of Canada and completed the project which merited her award, Davies is still giving back.

Although she claims to be suffering from "total burnout," she's not only the Secretary of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), Canada Committee, but is also curating an exhibit of an art professor.

"I really want to work only on projects that are life-affirming in some way or else give me a great kick."



SIWEI CHEN

**WORK OF A LIFETIME** Davies made a career out of writing and research.

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## Capital city transit shifts into gear

STARTING AT THE END OF AUGUST, BUSES WILL begin running from Leduc to Edmonton's south side, connecting to the newly-built Century Park LRT station. For their dedication to transit and their realization that it makes for better communities, both the City of Leduc and Leduc County should be commended.

Taken with the recent expansions, proposed and approved, of Edmonton's LRT line, it shows an expanding appreciation of transit by our local governments and the role it plays in society. Our ruling bodies are finally recognizing that transit isn't just a fringe service used only by low-income earners, but rather a basic amenity that should be accessible to everyone.

The City of Leduc and Leduc County approved the C-Line Transit system at the end of July and plan to have buses on the road by the end of summer. Routes will start at Century Park, pass the airport, loop through Leduc, and then head back to the beginning. The route will be repeated four times each morning and afternoon, giving people in Leduc the access to transit and making it easier to work in Edmonton.

While the prices aren't ideal and the service is still somewhat minimal, it's a start. And with the \$490,000 a year price tag being fronted by the City and County of Leduc, it's a clear sign that they've decided to back their new transit priorities with a sizable financial contribution. The City of Edmonton has also recognized its past sins of omission, as it moves to expand the LRT at a surprisingly quick rate. Trains have become packed during business hours as commuters move from Century Park up to Clareview, and the further expansions of the lines currently being planned will hopefully continue to increase ridership.

As well, the negotiation of the UPass by our postsecondary student governments and the City of Edmonton lets students access the system at an affordable rate, building customer loyalty to public transportation and exposing students to its possibilities. It's hard to argue against transit when it's priced at only a little more than \$25 a month during the Fall and Winter terms.

The city has even committed itself to expanding LRT service to all corners of the city. A new line from Churchill to NAIT will pass Grant MacEwan and connect all three postsecondary institutions through the LRT. The LRT Network Plan, adopted in 2009, includes plans for six different lines running out of the downtown core. The new lines will favour urban LRT planning: low-floor LRTs, better integration of stops into the community, and closer spacing for stops.

Together, the introduction of C-Line Transit and the expansion of the LRT means more people will have access to transit. But there's still plenty of room for improvement. The C-Line will only provide service into Edmonton in the mornings and evenings, with no buses running on the weekend. As well, transit in the city outside the LRT is abysmal — after 6 p.m., entire sections of the city become either completely unreachable or accessible only at a snail's pace. Waiting up to an hour for a bus on a major route is laughable, and the fact that essentially all transit completely shuts down shortly after 1 a.m. is still unacceptable.

Major world cities recognize the importance of quick, efficient transit and have multiple ways of moving people around. While recent efforts to increase transit throughout the capital region should be applauded, it has a long way to go before it surpasses mediocrity. With the approval by council, that should happen at some point in the next 10 years.

JUSTIN BELL  
Managing Editor

## We are the future

If there was any doubt that the *Simpsons* had overstayed their welcome on our cutting-edge 3D televisions, this week a hypothetical future Lisa Simpson reached her wedding date — August 1, 2010. While we have in some ways surpassed the *Simpsons*'s vision of the future — the iPhone 4's FaceTime makes "Picture Phones" look like a thing of the past, or rather, present — I can't help but feel saddened by the absence of holographic trees and *Ace Ventura 6* in our allegedly futuristic decade. So much for progress.

EVAN MUDRYK  
Arts & Entertainment Editor



ROSS VINCENT

## from THE web

### U of A racers deserve prizes and praise

RE: (Racecar team pulls into fourth in competition, Aaron Yeo, July 22)

Congratulations guys, I know how much work you put in.

CHARLES HEARD  
Via Internet

### Chick disapproves of hugging, wage gap

RE: (Debate about nomination of new Governor General is skin deep, Tyler Dawson, July 22)

Hugging it out isn't going to close the wage gap.

"SOME CHICK"  
Via Internet

### Radical ideas about gender equality

RE: (Debate about nomination of new Governor General is skin deep, Tyler Dawson, July 22)

The wage gap is a myth created by radical feminists to maintain the illusion of oppression.

"TREB"  
Via Internet

### Fact checking 101

RE: (Debate about nomination of new Governor General is skin deep, Tyler Dawson, July 22)

Hooray for the backlash! I am not going to do your research for you, but might I suggest that Google is your friend in this instance?

"OI"  
Via Internet

### Much too little, much too late

RE: (The Cat Empire — July 22 at the Starlite Room, Julianna Damer, August 4)

Ack! If I would have known they were here!

"SAD DAN"  
Via Internet

Letters to the editor should be sent to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca) or delivered via paper airplane to SUB 3-04. Website comments may occasionally be printed.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 450 words, and should include the author's name, program, and year of study to be considered for publication.

## LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Somebody doesn't want anyone else to have fun

"Aggies once, aggies twice holy fucking Jesus Christ, rim-ram, God damn, son-of-bitchin AGGIES." Yes, we all heard those Aggies last Thursday parading through campus, shouting their cheer, and galloping on horseback looking for something, or someone, to rope.

After viewing, and hearing this faculty "display," I could not help but feel slightly embarrassed. First, the "aggie" cheer is nothing but rude and offensive. I admire your enthusiasm, but that kind of language is simply inexcusable in any education institution. Unfortunately that particular "aggie" cheer has been chanted throughout agricultural colleges for many, many years — I know, I was an "aggie" eleven years ago.

Eleven years ago was also a time when agriculture and the prospects of farming for a living was relatively feasible. It was also a time when we could get away with being rude and offensive; it was a time when the image of the "professional agrolologist" was not all that important. But the image of the farmer in 1991 must (for the sake of preserving agriculture as a viable business) be presented as that of an intelligent, politically aware, and conscientious

business person — if, and only if, they are to be taken seriously.

Aggies ... grow up. I understand that you are cutting loose from university pressures, but do yourselves a favour ... save it for the Cook County Saloon. Try a more progressive approach with your "aggie awareness tactics." Show the rest of the community what agriculture really means and how important it is to the rest of the world.

It is everyone's future, and particularly yours, which is at stake.

M. MIROY  
November 26, 1991

### Smoking hot freshman

The article "Women who smoke" in last week's Gateway surprised me. Many modern girls smoke; most of them do it to be smart, I admit that. Maybe a few are tobacco addicts. But to write such a vituperative attack on every weed-waver on the campus is ridiculous. The modern girl is just as morally sound as any female ancestor who fainted at the whiff of a cigar; a superficial fad like smoking will never gain sufficient force to break down social habits — its "evil ways" are purely theoretical.

The person who wrote that article should go back to the mountain, away from the evil, horrid world. We don't want him.

A MERE FRESHMAN  
October 15, 1943



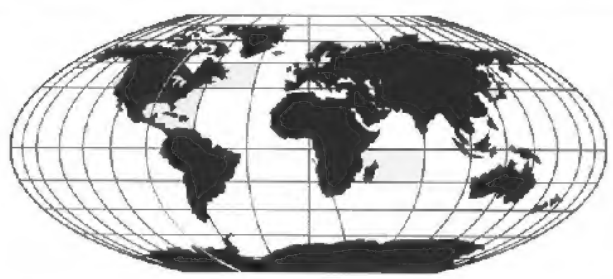
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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

# Lack of tampons is an outrage



JONN  
KMECH

At the Students' Council meeting on August 3, Vice President (Operations & Finance) Zach Fentiman answered a question regarding an absence of feminine hygiene product dispensers in female washrooms in SUB. Apparently, several of the washrooms contain condom dispensers, but no dispensers for feminine products. Fentiman said that they were currently looking into providing such supplies.

I'm incredibly glad that council is finally doing something about this pressing, and frankly, sexist issue. As a man, I've always been disheartened by the lack of feminine hygiene products I've noticed in women's washrooms on this campus. I know for a fact that this problem irks many ladies, and it's high

time this problem is addressed.

Why, several times now, I've come across women exiting stalls and remarked to them about how inappropriate it is for male products to be in female washrooms to the exclusion of feminine hygiene products. I vowed not to rest until this institution puts more tampons in the women's johns. Their cries of "why the hell are you in here, you disgusting creep" and "what are you, some kind of fucking psycho" tell me that I'm not alone in identifying this as a major problem.

Another time, I said something akin to "it's appalling that I can buy this condom and try it on in here, while women can't even purchase products for a completely natural monthly process." I barely got away in time before nearby women could express their enthusiasm for the idea. Or occasionally, while sitting and pondering the issue on the porcelain throne, I'll exclaim out loud, "God, when will this University get some tampons in here, amiright?" The screams emanating from the other stalls in response assure me that there's more than one

girl on campus that agrees. None of them seem to know where to obtain any feminine hygiene products when I ask either, which tells me that this could be a silent public health crisis.

Alas, I've tried to explain this dire situation to Campus 5-0 numerous times, but they only seem interested in getting me into the squad car. But I will not stay quiet on this issue. Not until the day comes when I can walk into a female washroom on this campus, knock on a stall door, and ask, "Ma'am, are there sufficient feminine products in there to suit your needs?" — and be answered with a resounding "yes" — will I stop fighting.

I may be tackled numerous times by security, I may have to escape through more ventilation ducts than I'd prefer, but it's a small price to pay for standing up for women's rights, especially when it comes to something in such a private and personal area as the washroom.

And on that note, when are they going to start installing urinals in the women's washrooms? The lack of them is highly inconvenient.

# Students' tuition share is cause for alarm



ALIX  
KEMP

Over the course of the past year, we've seen a number of protests taking aim at increasing tuition fees. "Education is a right," goes the slogan printed on signs. Postsecondary education, however, isn't a fundamental human right, as much as a basic education may be necessary. That doesn't mean, though, that rising educational costs in Canada are any less problematic.

Canada's universities are publicly funded. It's a system that, like our universal health care coverage, we love to brag about. But a recent study by TD Economics found that schools across Canada are increasingly relying on students for their funding. Back in 1980, tuition and fees accounted for only 13 per cent of university revenue. That number has nearly tripled, with students forking out 36 per cent of schools' revenue in 2005.

In 2009, Carl Amrhein bragged that tuition at the U of A accounted for an ever-decreasing proportion of the operating budget, a tidy bit of wordplay that glossed over how constant increases in ancillary fees have more than picked up the slack. Tuition and additional fees combined made up nearly 28 per cent of the University's total income in 2008, a proportion that's undoubtedly increased with the invention of the Common Student Space, Sustainability, and Services (CoSSS) fee.

It's obvious that education is important to Canadians. According to a 2005 study by the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation, 80 per cent of high school students say their parents expect them to complete a university or college degree. The public system is a reflection of the value that Canadian society has placed on higher education. We've decided that it's worth it for taxpayers to shell out for students to attend postsecondary so they don't incur massive amounts of debt.

isn't one Canada should be looking to emulate, yet that's the direction we're headed in.

The situation is only made worse when you consider that we're paying more for administrative costs than ever before. While money spent on instruction has risen at roughly the same rate as our tuition fees, executive salaries at the University of Alberta have more than tripled in the past 10 years, resulting in President Indira Samarasekera's obscene \$830,000 salary and benefits package.

The solutions aren't simple. Holding signs and chanting obviously hasn't been effective, as the Alberta government continues to put education somewhere far below oil and big business on its list of priorities, while university executives cut themselves progressively larger cheques. It might help if our students' associations were actually doing something useful in response to the astronomical increases in ancillary fees. After organizing a lackluster protest in response to the CoSSS fee, the Students' Union has been otherwise silent on the issue, perhaps an indication that we should consider ourselves grateful to only be paying an additional \$290 in fees instead of the originally proposed \$550.

Furthermore, Canadians — and not just students — need to demand that governments put our tax money where our values are, while also holding individual institutions accountable for their spending. If we want to preserve a public system where graduates aren't burdened with increasingly massive debts, we simply can't afford the half-measures we've so far been accepting.



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# Water a natural resource, not a right

ANTONY  
TA

**“The reality is that in a closed system, you will eventually run out of any finite resource; while there’s plenty of water on our planet, only a tiny portion of it safe to drink. The solution to the age-old problem of water allocation is a simple one, but not something the UN is able to implement: population control.”**

Last week, the United Nations General Assembly passed a non-binding resolution that recognizes water as a human right, but Canada abstained from voting on the motion. While the UN might call it “a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,” water itself isn’t a fundamental human right, but rather a consumable resource. Billions of people live in areas without sufficient access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation.

The problem gets worse as a variety of factors exacerbate the effects of physical and economic water scarcity. Guaranteeing access to water is currently an unachievable goal, as simply calling water a “right” doesn’t remove any of the barriers that would allow that right to be attained by all.

Some of the regions that are experiencing physical water scarcity — such as Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Mongolia, and northern China — have traditionally been dry places with deserts that have existed for thousands of years. Indeed, every major civilization since the ancient Mesopotamians has dealt with physical water scarcity in some way; the irrigation and hydraulic systems pioneered by ancient societies still exist in one form or another

today. However, water distribution has gotten a lot more complicated in the past few millennia. Those ancient systems were for transporting water from one place to another, not for filtering polluted water to make it clean and drinkable. The sophisticated water treatment systems that exist today require extensive infrastructure and resources that make them inaccessible in many parts of the world. Declaring water a “right” doesn’t make this technology any more attainable.

Sometimes linked to physical water scarcity, the economic scarcity of water is connected to the unequal distribution of global wealth. Colonial wars, multinational corporations, and rampant government corruption in some parts of the world led to the emergence of the “Third World” in the 20th century. Corrupt national governments don’t lack the capital for public infrastructure, but that money is instead siphoned off to private accounts. War-torn and impoverished countries, unsurprisingly, simply can’t afford to clean and distribute water.

Overpopulation only worsens water scarcity related to poverty. Some of the world’s most densely populated regions experience the worst problems with water scarcity — China, for instance, suffers from both physical

and economic scarcity of water. With the global population approaching seven billion, overpopulation is no longer a future concept but a present danger, and there’s no way to divide the world’s drinking water equally between seven billion people.

The reality is that in a closed system, you will eventually run out of any finite resource; while there’s plenty of water on our planet, only a tiny portion of it is safe to drink. The solution to the age-old problems of water allocation is a simple one, but not something the UN is able to implement: population control.

Human beings are thinking, reasoning, fair creatures. And we’re inclined to care about the pain and suffering of our fellow man. But that doesn’t exclude us from the harsh rules of nature that supersede whatever resolutions the UN General Assembly passes.

To solve the world’s water crisis, afflicted nations will have to learn how to overcome their domestic problems of overpopulation, corruption, and distribution, among others, and a UN resolution does nothing to help. The United Nations may have declared water a fundamental human right, but nature will certainly consider the resolution non-binding.

# Afghanistan leaks serve democracy

## WikiLeaks pursues essential mandate by releasing secret U.S. documents

TYLER  
DAWSON

significance of the documents, citing them as merely “secret” and not “top-secret,” while also suggesting that the leak contains information important enough to endanger the lives of men and women serving in Afghanistan.

Admiral Mike Mullen of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff charged on Thursday July 29 that Assange and his source “might already have on their hands the blood of some young soldier or that of an Afghan family.” Indeed, alluding to the severity of the situation, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has called in the FBI to assist with the investigation into the source of the leaks.

And in addition to the documents currently released, WikiLeaks has confirmed that they have an additional 15,000 documents, which they are censoring for security purposes before releasing to the public. In fact, a WikiLeaks spokesperson in Germany, Daniel Schmitt, said that the organization wanted to communicate with the Pentagon in order to “make redactions so they can be safely published,” although Pentagon officials said on Wednesday they had not received a request for help from the organization.

The security concerns raised by government officials are no doubt important; however, the public must look beyond the rhetoric of the U.S. government and investigate the contents of these documents independently.

Much of it is what you’d expect. The report paints a dark picture of Afghanistan, in which the war is going poorly and languishing, while money and supplies are bestowed upon the Iraq military effort instead. This is information that some commentators have derided as irrelevant and recycled common knowledge.

However, that misses the point. The

disclosure of these documents is of fundamental importance to democracy. On July 26, Mr. Assange stated in a press conference at the Frontline Club in London that he believes the documents might contain evidence that coalition forces in Afghanistan have committed war crimes.

It is of utmost importance to the ideals of democracy, and to the ideals of justice, that these claims are investigated. Despite the illegal nature of this intelligence leak, it is nevertheless absolutely necessary that the public and the media limit the ability of governments to act in an arbitrary, secretive, and immoral fashion.

Very few people would claim the war in Afghanistan is going well. However, there are debates over the efficacy and competency of military strategy, as well as the morality of some of the U.S. military’s actions on the ground, that knowledge from these documents could shed light on.

It’s not surprising that the official information given about the war is processed to some extent by government bureaucracy and media institutions. But these documents suggest that warped information is essentially commonplace. However, we should still be wary of the information presented in the leaked documents. It’s necessary that the public concern themselves with the content of the documents, but approach it with a critical eye.

The WikiLeaks release has given the public a treasure trove of information about the war in Afghanistan, but it must be used cautiously. Anything else would be an insult to the enterprising individual that managed to get the documents out of secret databases and onto the internet.

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WARREN ELLIS DARICK ROBERTSON  
INTRODUCTION BY JAMES A.



# The month of

Words by Justin Bell  
Photos by Aaron Yeo

## Ramadan will start at the beginning of August and Edmonton

The Muslim Community of Edmonton (MCE) mosque is tucked away in a leafy corner of Strathcona, a large, grey building, but one that doesn't look out of place in the heart of Edmonton. It's a quiet place on a weekday evening, but with Ramadan starting in August, it will soon be bustling with activity.

On a typical night, men greet each other in the foyer with handshakes as they remove their shoes then go to wash their hands and face. But only hushed tones are used inside the vast prayer hall.

Men start filing into the hall at about 9:40 p.m. for evening prayers, while women move to the second-floor prayer room. Alternating grey- and pink-striped carpeting in the chamber are set at an angle that points to the shortest line to Mecca, Islam's holiest site and the direction of worship for all Muslims.

As they wait for the service to start, a few people sit around reading the Quran or preparing for the prayers to come, moving chairs and clutter out of the way. Then suddenly, the muezzin takes to the microphone and his voice fills the room with the adhan, the lilting call to prayer.

The Arabic word for mosque, masjid, translates as "place of prostration" and as the prayer continues, the men bow and touch their heads

to the ground in deference to God.

Prayers last a half an hour, after which everyone files out, again shaking hands and chatting briefly with friends and acquaintances, before putting their shoes on and heading home.

It's a process repeated five times a day for the world's 1.5 billion Muslims, as they filter in and out of mosques for daily prayers. But their actions will soon take on greater significance as Ramadan starts, a month of fasting where Muslims refrain from eating, drinking, or sexual activity from dawn until sunset. As the imam from the Muslim Community of Edmonton's mosque explains, Ramadan is a time to reset spiritually and reconnect with God.

"Ramadan is a month of renewing the heart and renewing one's association with Allah, our God," says Sheikh Alaa Hussein. Having arrived in Canada only two years ago from Egypt, he has Harith Al-Shiraida, who acts as the "English-speaking imam" at the mosque and leads the Friday prayers, to translate for him. As the Sheikh describes it, it's also a time for Muslims to ask for forgiveness for sins and to prove piety to God, which is the ultimate goal of the month.

"If you're on a journey, a car requires maintenance on the way," he says through his translator. "The heart is similar in that manner in that it requires maintenance and renewal of its intentions towards the worship of God."

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Because Islam is based on the lunar calendar, the exact date of Ramadan changes from year to year, moving backwards through the Gregorian calendar. It should commence this year on August 11, but the exact start date can vary from city to city as the month isn't considered to start until a new crescent moon is sighted — meaning that even cloud cover can obscure the sighting and cause discrepancies of a few days.

During Ramadan Muslims start fasting when they hear the call to the Fajr (which occurs at dawn) and will continue to fast until the fourth prayer of the day, called the Maghrib, which happens at sunset.

Fasting can be difficult, even for those accustomed to the lack of food and water. Children don't have to start fasting until they hit puberty, but are encouraged to start practicing at a young age. Fouad Ammar, the president of the Muslim Community of Edmonton, started fasting when he was a young boy in Egypt.

"If you get used to fasting as a child, it will be easier. I started fasting when I was six years old. When I became an adult, it was easier for me," says Ammar.

Jon Van Horne, a revert and a member of the Da'wah committee (literally meaning "making an invitation," as they invite people to Islam),

will be participating in his third Ramadan. Without years of practice, he says he's found challenges in his first few fasts.

"I cried the first day. Honestly, I cried on my very first Ramadan. It was about 15 minutes before I could eat and I am cooking my food. It looked so good and I was so happy," says Van Horne. "We take food for granted. We get it every day. But when you fast, you appreciate it so much more."

In preparation for this year's Ramadan, Van Horne has been practicing with some of the members of the mosque. He said he fasted 19-and-a-half hours one day in early June, when breakfast was just before 3 a.m. and dinner was served at 10:15 p.m.

But as Ammar points out with a chuckle, that's just one day — Ramadan spans 30. That'll mean a challenge for the Canadian Muslim community in August, when the days are long and hot. And being in the minority in Canada can pose other difficulties. But it makes the breaking of the fast that much more rewarding.

After each sunset, Muslims gather in mosques and community centres to break the fast with friends and family with evening meals called Iftar. After eating, they will often listen to lessons from the imam about Islam.

Finally, once the month has concluded, Muslims celebrate the end of Ramadan and fast-







## Edmonton's Muslim population is preparing

ing with Eid-ul-Fitr, where, much like Iftar, they come together to break the fast with friends and family. It's actually prohibited for Muslims to fast on the day, as it's a time of rejoicing.

"The time of Eid is a time of gathering, a time of rejoicing," says Sheikh Alaa. "In the two largest prayer places, you have about 8,000 people who come out to each location designated for prayer. You see the sense of joy — you see the sense of community."

There are allowances for those unable to join in the fast. Women who are pregnant, menstruating, or breast-feeding are exempted from fasting, as are people who are too ill to fast or who are travelling — however, Muslims on trips who are physically healthy are expected to make up the days they missed after Eid, while those who aren't are expected to pay to help feed the poor.

With Ramadan falling mostly over August this year, students at the University will be able to focus on praying and won't be having to balance the fasting with hectic class schedules or exams. But the summer month brings different challenges.

"Because [Ramadan] is in August, the duration of the days is significantly longer, and [the] heat as well will make it difficult," explains Farooq Iqbal, the president of the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) at the U of A. "[But] because it's not conflicting with school means we are

able to focus on our religious development."

Iqbal is helping organize the Ramadan plans for Muslim students at the university, which he says will be easier this year than most. More students will be overseas or out of town, and the MSA is teaming up this year with the MCE to provide Iftar dinners at the Muslim Community of Edmonton mosque, rather than having them on campus.

The total number of Muslim students at the U of A is unknown, but Iqbal said there are 1,200 members of the MSA, with a growing Muslim population on campus.

"You see that there has been a significant increase in the number of Muslim students on campus, particularly with the University's efforts to recruit highly-qualified international graduate students," says Iqbal.

Ramadan serves as a chance for that increasing Muslim student population, and the approximately 45,000 Muslims in Edmonton, to come together as part of their faith. Sheikh Alaa says the mosque will take on a different feel over the month as more and more people come in to reflect on their religion.

"For the masjid, it's a time to renew initiatives, for gathering together for the recitation of the Quran. It's a time where bonds between the brotherhood are renewed. People are very generous and remember those in need."



If you're on a journey, a car requires maintenance on the way. The heart is similar in that manner in that it requires maintenance and renewal of its intentions towards the worship of God.

Sheikh Alaa Hussein

### Ramadan, Discipline, and the World Around Us by Mustafa Farooq

Born into a Canadian Muslim family, fasting in the month of Ramadan has always been a significant part of my life. Whether I was waking up for early morning pancakes, breaking the fast with cooled dates, or praying in a beautiful Edmonton masjid, Ramadan has always been a time where I could sit back, relax, and contemplate about how I was living my life. But after a recent trip, I found out that I had dramatically misunderstood what Ramadan really meant.

This summer, I bought a plane ticket to Karachi, Pakistan. Less than a month before Ramadan began, I walked off the plane into Jinnah International Airport in Karachi. I was shocked by the sudden barrage of sensory stimuli: the acrid smell of burning garbage, the heat, and above all

the barrack-like look of the airport. As we picked up our suitcases, dozens of soldiers strolled by, machine guns at the ready.

I was not unprepared for this — I had written my will before coming. A nation in its darkest hour, Pakistan faces an economy in shambles, poverty rates at an all-time high, a complete breakdown of law and order, and weekly attacks by the Taliban on civilian centers. As I ventured through the streets, I wondered what fasting would be like in a city that only had electricity 10 hours a day, and where thieves walked unafraid while flaunting their AK-47s.

I quickly realized that Ramadan is something that is profoundly social. By depriving themselves of food, all Karachiites — the elites, the middle class, the apathetic — experience the same hunger that is experienced by the millions of famished people in Pakistan. Solidarity with the starving is only truly achieved through experience; when

hungry, you can better understand the beggar tapping at your window with only one arm.

When listening to a local imam, Maulana Abdulsattar, I realized that for Muslims, Ramadan represents, among other things, the harnessing of the soul. Depriving ourselves of food and water from sunrise to sunset, Muslims attempt to subordinate our base desires and reconnect with God.

Drawing closer to the divine is a central theme during the month of Ramadan. Thus, the fast represents more than simply denying yourself food and drink; Muslims "fast" from lying, anger, and try to discipline their indecent thoughts. After sunset, when citizens in Karachi break their fasts, many will spend the nights in prayer and meditation. One night, I found my grandmother up at four o'clock in the morning, preparing for Ramadan, lips silently moving.

While writing this article, only 15 days away from Ramadan, I took a break to visit a mosque in

Karachi for the midday prayer. As the congregation raised their hands in supplication, the unmistakable sound of gunfire rang out. I was afraid; it sounded like someone was firing from only a few hundred feet away from the mosque. Every cell of my body wanted me to break my prayer and run for cover.

But beside me, the rows of people stood in their places, heads bowed in prayer. No one moved an inch. There was no panic. At the point where it seemed like all might be lost, the important thing for my fellow congregants was maintaining their connection to God. As bullets rang out, we kept praying. As we finished, the gunshots suddenly ceased.

I guess, in a sense, Ramadan is about examining the way we are living and trying to reconnect to the Divine. Here in Karachi, Ramadan is about letting go of fear, embracing change, and looking towards another sunrise.



# Wax Mannequin happy to stick to wax candle making



## musicpreview

### Wax Mannequin

Friday, August 10 at 8 p.m.  
New City Likwid Lounge (10081 Jasper Ave.)  
\$10 at the door

AARON YEO  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

While I've seen my fair share of odd band merchandise at concerts, from air fresheners used by the frontman to autographed feminine hygiene products, nothing comes close to the effort and ingenuity that Chris Adeney puts into his goods.

Working under the stage name Wax Mannequin, Adeney's mix of eccentric folk rock and poppy showtune techno is accompanied by eccentric stage antics and his one-of-a-kind homemade scented candles.

"They're shaped like my head!" he exclaims, on the phone from a stop-off in Banff. The idea came about on his last tour through western Canada.

"First, I wanted busts of myself made, like Beethoven," says Adeney. "But then I was talking to some friends and they said I should make candles out of wax and call them 'Wax Mannequins.'" While other artists are staring out of tour bus windows daydreaming, Adeney is hard at work. He sculpted a model of his head with some clay, and then, using epoxy, made a mold.

"On the tour, we'd stop at dollar stores to buy candles, and we'd melt them down on a friend's stove."

Things started out small, but he knew they'd be an instant hit. "I think we made about five on that tour, but when we got home — the mass production began," he explains.

When asked about what scents the candles come in, Adeney replies enthusiastically with "Christmas!"

"Hmm, maybe I should've saved that one for last," he recants, taking a pause to contemplate the order of aromas. "Christmas, Mint, Lemon, Rose. Lemon-rose, where I mixed the Lemon and the Rose together."

The miniature wax heads take a fair time to make, and with the care Adeney puts in, he's sometimes hesitant to put them up for sale.

"I kind of almost don't want to sell them," he says. "I mostly just want to have candles at my show, but then I run out and get kind of mad because I have to make some more on someone's stove."

**"I kind of almost don't want to sell them. I mostly just want to have candles at my show, but then I run out and get kind of mad because I have to make some more on someone's stove."**

CHRIS ADENEY  
WAX MANNEQUIN

Luckily, he came prepared this time, with a portable hot plate he can plug in anywhere, exclusively used for his wax-melting activities.

"It's just kind of fun, learning about the art of candle-making," Adeney beams.

He'll have presumably less time to make candles this coming fall, as he and his wife are expecting a baby boy. He's already travelled the world and collected many stories, from playing shows in abandoned sausage factories to having his electronics "inspected" by European customs officers looking for drugs.

Settling down in Hamilton, Ontario, Adeney plans to take a break from the road, but still has a plethora of unfinished material he'd like to get back to — like candles.

# Warped creator weathers obstacles after celebrating 16 years on the road

## musicpreview

### Vans Warped Tour 2010

With Andrew W.K., Reel Big Fish, The Dillinger Escape Plan, Every Time I Die, and others  
Thursday, August 5, gates at 11 a.m., shows start at 12 p.m.  
Edmonton Northlands Grounds (118 Ave. and Wayne Gretzky Dr.)  
\$62.75 at the gate

JUSTIN BELL  
Managing Editor

It's been a long summer for Kevin Lyman, creator and producer of the Warped Tour, one of the largest travelling music shows on the continent. On the phone from Detroit, he sounds tired and professes to coming down with a cold. On top of that, he accidentally double-booked interviews and sounds rushed. But for a man hauling a couple hundred performers across untold miles, it comes with the (rapidly changing) territory.

"I'm as sick as I've ever been on the road," admits Lyman, who's been travelling with the tour since the end of June and you can tell it's starting to wear him down.

Warped is Lyman's baby, an annual pilgrimage of punk bands that criss-crosses the continent. It brings an eclectic mix of hardcore, ska, pop punk, and metal to large venues, and it's no wonder he's come down with a cold; the hectic schedule is enough to get to even the most

dedicated of workers.

The tour has taken Lyman to 31 different venues in Canada and the US since the tour kicked off in Carson, California in late June. They've already made one foray north of the border to play in Montreal and Toronto, but will cross the 49th parallel once again for the Edmonton show. Most performers typically schedule all their Canadian dates consecutively to cut down on the paperwork, but Warped decided to do it their own way.

"We tend not to do anything too easy," says Lyman. "Two border crossings are hard work. The guys are trying to get the paperwork done."

Sixty-five bands will make the trek north from Bonner Springs, Kansas, including headliners like Andrew W.K. and Reel Big Fish. That's only a drop in the bucket of the nearly 200 bands who will make appearances on the tour over almost two months on the road, but still enough to keep Lyman and his crew on their feet.

"We figure it's going to be a pretty expensive proposition," Lyman remarks. "Two days to get there, one day to get back. We will definitely take a hard look after this year and see how it went."

Since the City of Champions is so out of the way, Edmonton could easily be left off the list next year. A previous attempt to come the city was cancelled due to permit problems. Calgary and Saskatoon have both previously hosted the event but were left off the bill this time around. Edmonton punk fans should consider themselves lucky.

Lyman has been on the road shepherding bands and watching new talents come and go with the Warped Tour since 1995. The list of A-listers — who were at one point part of the



longest-running annual tour — can stretch a mile. From Blink-182, Rise Against, AFI, and Alexisonfire, to Social Distortion, Bad Religion and My Chemical Romance, the tour boasts as alumni some of the most prominent and respected punk groups around.

"We get to interact with these artists as they develop. We watch them become larger artists. Some of them want to come back. For some, their financial needs become bigger as they become [more popular]."

But after 16 years, the one part of the tour that Lyman always remembers is the weather. Calgary is prone to chinook winds blowing in from the

mountains and Lyman says he's had to deal with the powerful prairie phenomenon.

"There's a photo of us holding a tent and almost getting blown away," Lyman recalls.

After a decade and a half of travelling with the tour, it's a wonder what keeps the dedicated Lyman going after all these years. Simply put, he can't leave the tour business.

"I'd have to get a real job," Lyman says with a chuckle. "At one point, I worked over 300 shows a year. I have two children and this allows me to raise them."

It all comes down to working a job you love — even if it might be exhausting.



# Time to become a believer in the Bieber



EVAN  
MUDRYK

Is it too soon to suggest that Justin Bieber will eventually inherit the Earth? Nowadays, no hyperbole seems too ridiculous or too abstract when discussing Canada's hottest contribution to pop music this side of Avril Lavigne. The question must be asked: is Bieber fever beginning to cool, or is he, in fact, just getting hot and bothered?

Bieber's exploits are numerous and widespread. The music video for his song "Baby" recently surpassed Lady Gaga's as the most watched video on YouTube, with over 270 million views. He's been on the cover of pretty much every teen girl magazine that exists and possibly a couple that don't. He's Usher's bitch. Furthermore, he's also been blamed for much of the success of the *Karate Kid* remake, which outperformed box office estimates, most likely due to the video Bieber made with Jaden Smith to promote the film.

More recently, the 16-year-old floppy-haired ragamuffin announced, in conjunction with Paramount, that they will be turning his "life" story into a feature film. And as if the idea of a Bieber biopic wasn't enough to get your panties tied in braids, he's also set to star as himself and the film will, of course, be presented in 3D.

"Next Valentine's we're coming with a major 3D Movie telling [my] story with an Oscar winning director," he told his four-million followers on

Twitter last Monday.

With this film, Bieber is in a place in his career where he could potentially become the biggest entertainment act around, before he even celebrates his 18th birthday. To quote contemporary poet Marshall Mathers: "You only get one shot / do not miss your chance to blow / This opportunity comes once in a lifetime / yo." Imagine for a moment the kind of stardom Eminem could have achieved if only he'd gotten famous before his voice finished cracking and *8 Mile* had been released in 3D and you'll begin to understand what I'm about to say — this as-yet-untitled Justin Bieber masterwork has the potential to become one of the biggest box-office draws of all time.

**As if the idea of a Bieber biopic wasn't enough to get your panties tied in braids, he's also set to star as himself and the film will, of course, be presented in 3D.**

Hollywood success aside, a few questions remain. Whether the sands of time will be as kind to Mr. Bieber as they have been to Matthew Broderick in his post-Bueller days remains cloaked in a moppy haircut of uncertainty. It's also impossible to know for sure if Bieber's boyish good looks will blossom into Zac Efron-like perfection just yet. Nevertheless, reasonably scientific digital rendering software (actually just drawings by my nine-year-old cousin

Barry) depict Bieber's physical appearance deteriorating slowly over time and ultimately envision him morphing into a somehow-even-uglier Jim Belushi as early as age 26. And while these drawings can only represent random guesses as to how Bieber will actually mature, this scenario is a dark and distressing one. The Bieber train to fame could be short-lived, possibly veering off the same cliff the Jonas Brothers did after their brief stint with fame during Year One BB (Before Bieber).

But as hard as these realities are to confront, the fact is that Justin Bieber isn't going away anytime soon. His lasting popularity is evidenced by his record-breaking seven singles from his debut album that have reached the Billboard Hot 100. Additionally, I have witnessed an internet video depicting what can only be described by recalling the openings to the *Austin Powers* movies, wherein Mike Myers' character is chased down by literally hundreds of women who simply cannot contain their violent and unquenchable thirst for the titular spy's mojo.

For Justin Bieber, this scenario is all too real — no Axe body spray required — as hundreds of shrieking preteen girls gallop after the intrepid young Canadian, who only through quick thinking and a little bit of luck is able to make his escape on a nearby Segway. Yes, I said Segway. Not only is this kid responsible for making sure that there will always be "One Less Lonely Girl," but he's also found a practical use for the otherwise useless Segway — single-person getaway transport for when you're so famous that you're a danger to yourself and others. We've all been "Ushered" into a brave new world — the world of Justin Bieber (2.0).

## The Jazz Age

### albumreview

#### The City Streets

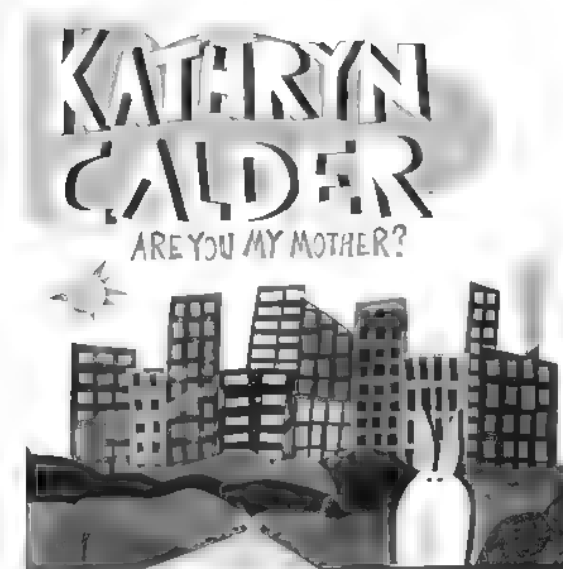
The Jazz Age  
Clamour

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE  
Senior News Editor

The City Streets seem a little young to be looking back on their lives and thinking about death, but the trio is clearly pondering the grave in their third album, *The Jazz Age*.

Numerous songs are about being young, making mistakes, and fighting for one's dreams. Some tracks, such as "The Last Waltz Party," are more nostalgic, with lyrics such as "take me back there where we did not care about these lies we built today." In contrast, the acoustic ballad "Glory Nights" seems bitter about the past, evident in the repeated line "they say you can't do everything you want, why not?"

Ambivalence for the past translates into a similar nonchalance about death. In the title track "The Jazz Age," lead vocalist Rick Reid sings, "I see my own death / it's inspiring." Containing everything from upbeat punk-rock to haunting ballads, the album has sweeping appeal. The group's diverse musical taste comes through in their lyrics; Reid calls out the Clash, Neil Young, and the Supremes in different songs. *The Jazz Age* should satisfy most listeners, even if they're just solemnly passing through.



### albumreview

#### Kathryn Calder

Are You My Mother?  
File Under Music

MADELINE SMITH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Kathryn Calder is already a Canadian indie-pop princess as a member of both Immaculate Machine and super-group The New Pornographers. But where the music from those bands is all driving drumbeats and synthesizers, Calder's recent solo effort replaces those with sparse piano and string compositions over ghostly vocal arrangements, placing the spotlight on Calder's voice.

The album strikes a more introspective tone than anything she's done in the past. Recorded while she cared for her ailing mother, a sense of helplessness is felt in many of the songs. In the first track "Slip Away," Calder sings regretfully, "Holding onto something lost / I should just let go and move along," before the song explodes into a soaring melodic chorus.

But the album isn't only a depressing lament. Songs like "Castor and Pollux" and "Day Long Past Its Prime" are upbeat and pop-infused — more reminiscent of Calder's previous work. It might not be the type of music Calder's fans expect, but *Are You My Mother?* is mature and moving, and Calder can clearly hold her own as a newly solo voice.

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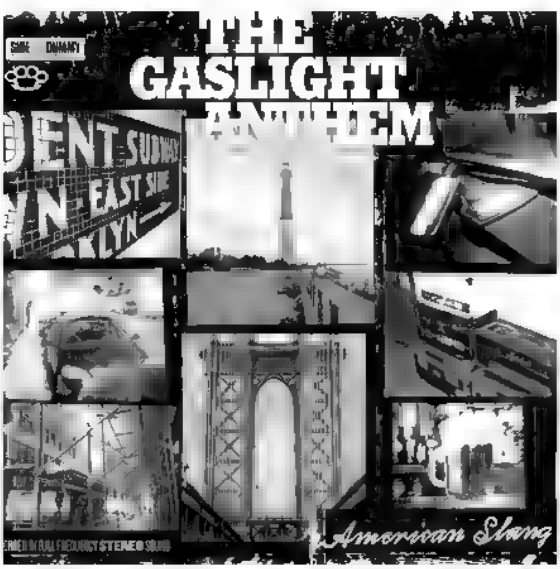
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## albumreview

### The Gaslight Anthem

*American Slang*  
SideOneDummy Records

BEN SIR  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

I wasn't sure what to expect from the Gaslight Anthem's latest album, *American Slang*, after their last release launched them from openers on the punk-rock circuit to international headliners. They still have shitkickers like "Orphans," with its rapid pace and booming chorus, would sound at home on band's debut album. The band shows growth with "The Diamond Church Street Choir," which expands further into the territories of soul and Motown that they tinkered with on *The '59 Sound*, while "The Queen of Lower Chelsea" flashes the band's Clash influence like a proud and weathered tattoo.

Brian Fallon's lyrics have also changed with effective subtlety. Gone are the New Jersey references and Bruce Springsteen tributes. His rotating cast of Marias have disappeared from his lyrics, while his ability to evoke feeling remains in place. Lines like "I saw you walking back and forth, about another boy, thinking that you may want to leave," from the track "Bring It On," broke my heart in the best way possible. After darkening the mood with his Americana melancholy, Fallon re-establishes his optimism, praising the cathartic power of music in "Boxer," singing that he, "found the bandages inside the pen, and the stitches on the radio."

As I continue to listen through this album, I keep finding new ways to love it. It feels perfect for different nights and different moments, when I miss my girl, my home, or nothing at all.



## albumreview

### Great Big Sea

*Safe Upon the Shore*  
Warner

EVAN DAUM  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Newfoundland's favourite sons Great Big Sea are back with their latest studio album *Safe Upon the Shore* and an array of tracks that may have the band poised for their biggest hit on the charts in well over a decade. After scoring their greatest successes as a group in the mid-'90s with *Up*, which went four times platinum, the quintet has far from fallen off the map over the last 15 years, even though they haven't been able to replicate *Up*'s spectacular heights. Nevertheless, *Safe Upon the Shore* successfully pieces together a variety of sounds into a tidy package — from the distinct Newfoundland-inspired melodies that vaulted the group to Canadian stardom over a decade ago, to more rock- and bluegrass-based sounds.

The group has broadened their sound by lifting their anchor and setting sail into some uncharted waters while never forgetting their East Coast folk roots. Of all the tracks, "Dear Home Town" captures the essence of the album best, epitomizing the shared experience that many native Newfoundlanders connect with — the feeling of moving away from the island while still maintaining a deep connection to it.

With the addition of a few new sights to their musical horizon — and lyrics that pay tribute to the band's travels beyond their maritime shorelines — *Safe Upon the Shore* is certainly an album worth sharing a pint of your favourite ale over.



## albumreview

### LCD Soundsystem

*This Is Happening*  
DFA Records

MATT HIRJI  
Sports Editor

The release of LCD Soundsystem's *This Is Happening* is bittersweet for long-time fans — the band's third album is the finest in their catalogue and their final release as a group. LCD Soundsystem's retirement, however, comes at the perfect time.

For his last two albums, lead singer James Murphy explores his experience aging out of a scene that he's been a part of since founding DFA Records in 2001. As two pianos duel in harmony on the track "All My Friends," from *Sound Of Silver*, Murphy struggles to come to terms with his disenchantment with youth. It's only on *This Is Happening* that Murphy seems to have embraced the process of growing up. As Murphy yells "take me home" on the track "All I Want," it's apparent that Murphy finally feels fine being too old for the scene.

Murphy shows his maturity both in the lyrics and sound of the final album. As the opening track "Dance Yrself Clean" builds to a crescendo, the synthesizers resonate freely and drummer Pat Mahoney's percussive thwacks are alive with charisma. While post-production is often overlooked in the contemporary era of DIY recording, Murphy and Weston have painstakingly obsessed over the soundboard to assure that each track on the LP retains its intended characteristics.

LCD Soundsystem's presence in the modern New York music scene will be missed, admirers can take consolation that Murphy saved the best for last.



## albumreview

### The Books

*The Way Out*  
Temporary Residence

CHRIS GEE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Something I learned from listening to *The Way Out*: "Realize that your eyes are made up of atoms that are microscopic and are mostly space / they're in fact filled with the substance of your life."

Part inspirational spoken word, part bedroom folk-song, The Books aren't exactly your paperback band. The bulk of the album ebbs and flows with colourful vocal samples exclaiming phrases that are often humorous but curiously emotional at the same time.

Upon the first listen through, the album sounds like a completely disorienting mess. But moody string arrangements, along with calculated hums and thumps, collect these random ideas together to strangely invent some surprisingly fluid tunes. Particularly interesting is "A Cold Freezin' Night," which narrates a violent verbal battle between some kids ("You'll stay alive as long as I want you to / so I can kill you") to a click-clack ramshackle beat that is reminiscent of *West Side Story*.

*The Way Out* could be seen as more of a linguistic exercise than an experimental pop album. However, the Books have created something where spoken word can be pleasing to the ear. *The Way Out* is not an album you should have on shuffle on your iPod or play at a party. But when you need some alone time, grab yourself a cup of tea and "with your left brain, close your eyes, [and] stick out your tongue to the universe" with the Books.

## NEW INTER-DISCIPLINARY COURSE

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The purpose of this course is to offer an integrated interdisciplinary approach to alternative energy generation at a graduate level. The course is divided into three modules as follows:

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**Prerequisites:** All students registered in this course will require high school level mathematics and proven ability to write their term paper independently in English. Students in graduate programs in the three focus areas above may find one of the evaluation areas below their level of aptitude or knowledge. A small segment of the evaluation (10%) will be based on participation, and this can be strongly influenced by demonstrating leadership tutoring in a student's field of speciality.

**Class Times:** Thursdays, 18:30–21:30 (Section X1; Class # 43001) **Location:** Education 158

**Instructor:** Brian Fleck, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering

INT D 561 is an exciting opportunity for graduate students to immerse themselves in the study of energy and the environment with peers across various disciplines at the University of Alberta. The goal is for students to acquire more breadth in their graduate program through exposure to a subset of the various methodological and disciplinary approaches involved in the study of energy and the environment in general.

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-Lady Gaga



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# Panda takes home gold at London Triathlon

Paula Findlay, a three-sport student-athlete at the U of A, claimed glory at the premier event

MATT HIRJI  
Sports Editor

University of Alberta Panda Paula Findlay was the first athlete to cross the finish line at Hyde Park during last week's London Triathlon.

The 21-year-old Edmontonian had never competed in a World Championship Triathlon before but her first attempt on the Olympic course proved successful.

Findlay, a student-athlete and member of the Track, Swimming, and Cross-Country teams at the U of A, was ranked 53rd prior to the race. She stunned both herself and the triathlon community by claiming top prize at the prestigious event.

It was very surprising, I wasn't expected to win and I didn't expect to win. It was a huge shock, but the race itself went really well. I just felt better than I had ever felt during a race," Findlay said.

Standing on the pontoon before the start of the event, Findlay was particularly nervous for the event that served as a warm up for many athletes who will compete on the same course during the 2012 Olympic games.

"I always get really nervous before the start of a race. I just start thinking about things that are beyond my control — what if this happens or what if something goes wrong. Before I started the race, I just looked around and saw an Olympic gold medalist and a few world champions — every fast triathlete was racing. I was intimidated and felt really out of place. It was overwhelming — there were cameras everywhere. It was really nerve-racking."

Findlay has grown accustomed to distractions — after spending more than two years as a Panda for U of A while participating in, cross-country, swimming and track and was named Canada West Athlete of the year in 2007, Findlay decided to put school on hold to focus on her training. During her leave from school, Findlay has experienced tremendous athletic successes, which she partially attributes to having more time to focus on her athletic development without the added challenge of balancing school-work with training.

"Leaving school allowed me to

move out to Victoria and look after myself. When you are in school there's not really time for physiotherapy, massage, and all things that you need to do to stay injury free. After I moved, I immediately felt better. I could put all my focus into one thing and that really helped," said Findlay.

Despite temporarily leaving the University of Alberta to pursue a personal goal, Findlay said that her athletic training during her tenure as a student-athlete in Edmonton provides the knowledge and fortitude needed to meet the challenges that she faces on a triathlon course.

"I raced for three teams while balancing training and school at the same time. It's hard work, but racing varsity is so fun," Findlay said. "It's great to train as apart of a team. It really gave me a great community to train with. I feel very lucky to train with them. CIS is just such a great team atmosphere."

At the London Triathlon, Findlay's hard work and sacrifice finally paid off. During the final portion of the run, Findlay was leading the pack, and as each runner fell off the pace, it was clearly evident that by the last half kilometer Findlay was going to post the day's fastest time, a feat that Findlay never thought would occur until the final moments of the race.

Posting a winning time of 1:51:40, she attributes her gold medal performance to a strong showing with her running shoes on — a part of the race that has challenged Findlay in the past.

"My run felt better than it ever has before. That was a really nice feeling. The run didn't feel that hard to me. The run ended up being a personal best for me. It was really bizarre — I found it so strange that I was running with all these Olympians," Findlay said.

"I never thought I could win the race until the very last 50 meters. When I crossed the finish line first, it was just so shocking. I knew that my life was going to change and everybody was going to know who I am now. It was just really cool."

"Every race is getting better and better for me. I still want to keep improving, but all my hard work is paying off right now. That was the greatest performance of my life."



SUPPLIED: TRIATHLON CANADA

## BY THE NUMBERS

4

Number of racers that were in the lead group during the final lap of the London Triathlon.

3

Number of varsity sports that Findlay participated in while she was a student athlete for the University of Alberta

2

Number of seasons that the 21-year-old Findlay has competed in Olympic-distance triathlons.

1

Number of gold medals that Findlay has claimed in World Championship triathlons. Her first victory occurred last week in London.

**HOISTING THE BANNER** Paula Findlay celebrates victory after crossing the finish line at the 2010 London Triathlon.



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September.

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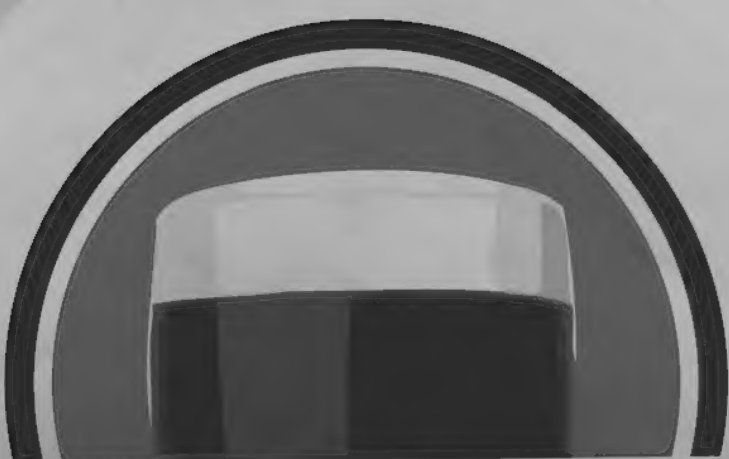
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FAYECAMPBELL

## I prefer my arena food uninspected

JONN  
KMECH

Sports  
Commentary



With all the talk about a new stadium in Edmonton, attention has shifted away from the current Oilers abode. A study released last week by CBC found that Rexall Place had 24 health code violations written up for their food vendors since the beginning of 2009. While this isn't as bad as some of the U.S. stadiums recently uncovered by a recent ESPN *Outside the Lines* report on stadium food safety across North America, it's still raised concerns. Undercooked burgers were being served, bacon and chicken fingers were being stored at room temperature, and wieners were found thawing in a pot of water.

While inspectors said that people can continue eating at Rexall, I think it's absolutely deplorable — deplorable that such a report could possibly tarnish the upstanding reputation of shitty stadium food everywhere and force venues to clean up their act. At arenas, I expect to eat overpriced, undercooked, slimy food that's probably been shoved down the trousers of a mid-50s balding man in a stained apron. It's part of the sporting experience, and I'll be damned if any food safety reports take that away from me.

There's a certain level of putridity that the viewing public is willing to accept when they eat arena food that a few inconsequential "health code violations" can't hope to erase. The food is already succulently greasy enough that it drips down your chin when you bite into it — who cares if that grease might have previously been strained through a dishrag?

**At arenas, I expect  
to eat overpriced,  
undercooked, slimy  
food that's probably  
been shoved down  
the trousers of a mid-  
50s balding man in a  
stained apron.**

This isn't the Kentucky Derby, people. Nobody expects foie gras with their Coke at a hockey game — unless of course the duck fell into the nacho cheese vat. Did you ever consider why fans "never go back" after buying their peanuts and crackerjacks? To criticize arena vendors for upholding the tradition of professional sporting stadiums selling expensive deep-fried bullshit to customers is an insult to every finger that's found its way into the fry vat, every pretzel that's been lathered in teenage spittle, and every burger that's resulted in a horrific case of Montezuma's Revenge. I'll never

forget that weekend.

If there's any better argument about why we don't need a new arena in Edmonton, I can't think of one. A brand new stadium would feature a bunch of fancy hand sanitizers, cleaning standards, and stainless steel countertops that are free of the normal residues that give arena food that certain *je ne sais quoi*. If Daryl Katz wants my support for a downtown arena, any proposal that he gives to city council should include a plan for how he's going to deliver low-grade semi-edible "food" products to all of his paying customers so that they can have the proper experience for their tax dollars.

As well, if Katz would just stand in front of council, pull out a Rexall Place burger, and eat it, I'm sure he'd convince most people of his commitment to this city. Sure, there's already plenty of wieners in the Katz Group that require a serious grilling, but I won't support their plan until they can promise that the wieners to be served downtown have already been placed in water to thaw, ready to be consumed in 2014 if all goes according to schedule.

But before we get ahead of ourselves, there's still plenty of improvements that can be made at Rexall. It'll require a lot of blood, sweat, tears, and elbow grease. But until all of those elements can cover the popcorn of Rexall patrons without scrutiny, our proud heritage of nauseating arena food in this city will forever be in peril.



# Dynasties are a thing of the past

## NHL collective bargaining agreement blocks the road to Stanley Cup repeats



EVAN  
DAUM

Sports  
Commentary

How quickly the mighty can be torn to pieces. After reaching the pinnacle of the hockey world last season, the Chicago Blackhawks will have a very different look next year after an abundance of off season moves have turned the Stanley Cup champions into the world's biggest garage sale.

Dustin Byfuglien, Andrew Ladd, Ben Eager, Kris Versteeg, Brent Sopel, Adam Burish, and Colin Fraser were the first seven to be sent packing from the Windy City, and with news earlier this week that Finnish netminder Antti Niemi wouldn't be back with the 'Hawks, it's now crystal clear that dynasties are all but a thing of the past in the NHL.

Don't expect to see one team dominate the rest of the league for any length of time, winning Stanley Cups in succession or multiple championships in the same half-dozen years — those are antiquities of the pre-salary cap era.

By walking away from Niemi's arbitration settlement that would have seen the goalie's salary jump from a little more than \$800,000 last year to \$2.75 million for the upcoming season, it will make him the first goalie since Nikolai Khabibulin to hoist the Stanley Cup,

and then suit up for a new squad the following year.

Unlike Khabibulin, who left Tampa Bay to cash in on a big free agent deal, Niemi was forced to find a new locale to call home after the Blackhawks refused to agree with the arbitrator's decision.

**Don't expect to see one team dominate the rest of the league for any length of time, winning Stanley Cups in succession or multiple championships in the same half-dozen years.**

Chicago, who signed the older, cheaper Marty Turco for \$1.3 million next year to take Niemi's spot, has found themselves the poster child for just how quickly the makeup of a team can, and will, continue to change in the salary cap era as teams play the numbers game to get under the dollar bill ceiling of the cap.

Is it a bad thing that there's parity in the NHL, largely a result of the salary cap? Of course not, but that doesn't mean all is well.

Of course the 'Hawks brought a lot of the turnover they are experiencing this off-season upon themselves, as they fight to get under the ceiling of the NHL's salary cap, but Chicago's story should be a cautionary tale for

fans across the league.

The problem of seeing a team torn apart after winning the cup is an issue I'm sure fans everywhere wouldn't mind having — they did win a championship after all. But is so much turnover really good for the league?

Of course the likes of Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane will be sticking around Chi-Town, but due to the sheer number of changes, the 'Hawks will be taking on a whole new look next season.

You always hear about the glory days, when players stayed their entire careers in one place, connecting with the fans and entrenching themselves in the community. Those days have long been gone in professional sports, but with the salary cap reducing players to nothing more than a walking stat box, and salary cap hit, player movement is poised to reach new heights.

The NHL is in a better place from a competition standpoint now than it was pre-lockout — there's little doubt in my mind about that.

It's never a bad thing when almost any team can go from league laughing stock to champions in a few years given the right hands on the wheel, but much like a fireworks show, the rise to the top can happen in the blink of an eye.

Don't get comfortable at the top 'Hawks fans. You're now nothing but salary embers — fleeting evidence for the new face of professional hockey in the modern era of the National Hockey League.

# Highlights overshadow World Cup dives



NATHANIEL  
BRENNIS

Sports  
Commentary

It is hard to believe that nearly 30 days have gone by since the 2010 World Cup drew to a close in South Africa. Overcome by withdrawal, I have spent the last couple of weeks in reclusive reflection, organizing my opinion over what has been one of the most heavily criticized World Cups in living memory. A tournament mired by foul play, goal-line controversy, and underachieving superstars, the cynics would have us believe the beautiful game died last month. What a bunch of crap.

While the incessant drones of those infernal vuvuzelas are still ringing in my ears, I can say that this edition of the World Cup, Africa's first, was great soccer and damn good entertainment.

Every tournament needs a bang — a big moment where the expectations that have built up are finally realized. World Cup 2010 got its early as South African midfielder Siphiwe Tshabalala brought jubilation to Soccer City Stadium with an outstanding strike against Mexico in the opening match. The goal was followed by one of the best goal celebrations in World Cup history. Soon after, the entire host nation was learning the 'Tshabalala' dance.

The goal of the tournament, however, did not come until much later; a wonder-strike amazingly sup-

plied by Giovanni Van Bronckhorst of the Netherlands in the semifinals. Receiving the ball at a good 30 yards from goal, the 36-year-old left back didn't hesitate and laid the ball off for a shot with his preferred left foot. The white sphere rocketed through the air, hard and straight as an arrow, before settling into the far top corner of the frame. Sadly, it was the last goal of Van Bronckhorst's career.

**While the incessant drones of those infernal vuvuzelas are still ringing in my ears, I can say that this edition of the World Cup, Africa's first, was great soccer and damn good entertainment**

This year, many of the traditional European powerhouses failed to live up to their pedigree. Veritable soccer powerhouses England, Italy, and France, all stumbled early and failed to recover. There was, however, one brilliant exception: the Germans and their rampaging youth, particularly Thomas Müller and Mesut Özil, the catalyst of the team's unbelievably fluid and deadly counterattack. Playing outside of their tradition, the Germans were fast, lively, and beautiful to watch.

We also witnessed a stunning contribution from the South American teams, with all five of their representatives gaining berths in group of 16.

The most incredible of these campaigns was the one waged by the unfancied Uruguayans who reached the semifinals for the first time since 1950. Of the few who mastered the swerve of the infamous Adidas 'Jabulani' ball, Uruguay captain Diego Forlan single-handedly made his team a contender and was a fantastic choice for FIFA's World Cup MVP.

The undisputed media darling of the tournament, however, was everyone's favorite prognosticating German cephalopod mollusk Paul. This nigh-infallible psychic octopus was an eerily perfect eight-for-eight in his World Cup picks. Refusing to be swayed by appeals to nationalist sentiment, Paul foretold Germany's semifinal loss and correctly predicted Spain's eventual triumph. In fact, Vegas bookmakers were forced to slash their odds as punters began dogmatically following Paul's selections.

Soccer fans can only hope that the 2014 tournament in Rio de Janeiro will be as successful as this year's World Cup. While there were hiccups along the way, soccer connoisseurs should be optimistic for the future. The addition of goal line replay there will be less debate about the outcome of matches — something that mired this year's championship.

With every iteration, the World Cup unerringly supplies each individual fan with at least one unshakable image they will never forget. This year was no different — Landon Donovan's last minute heroics against Slovenia, Argentinean coach Diego Maradona's theatrics and the tears of Asamoah Gyan of Ghana after scoring in extra time against the U.S. — every moment was simply beautiful.

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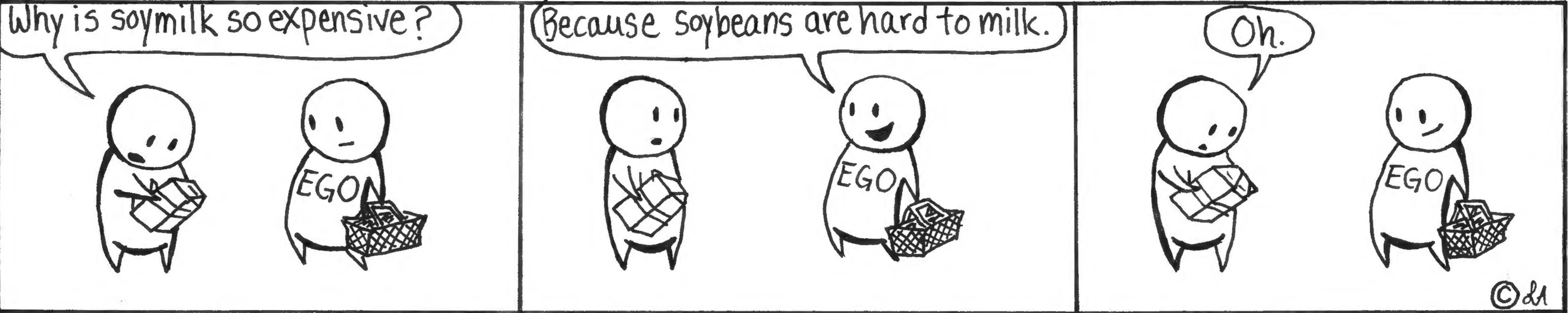
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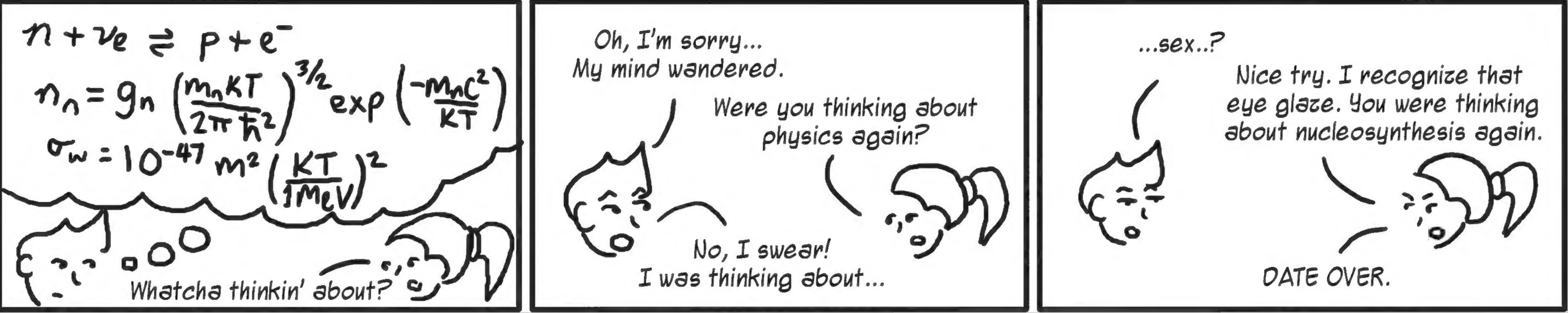
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